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**From:** Colleen Cripps  
**Sent:** Fri 11/22/2013 4:47:30 PM  
**Subject:** Eureka Update for November 13

Good Morning,

Now that the cleanup activities in Eureka have wrapped up for the season, I wanted to provide you with an update on recent and upcoming NDEP and EPA activity addressing lead and arsenic soil contamination in Eureka.

### **Residential Soil Cleanup**

In September and October, EPA completed cleanup at 16 occupied residential properties and a small lot on the Eureka elementary school. At two additional properties, EPA placed a temporary gravel cover to prevent direct exposure. These are properties with the highest concentrations of lead and arsenic in soil in town. The property owners voluntarily agreed to removal of the top 12 inches of soil and replacing it with clean imported fill. All property owners have signed off that the work was completed as agreed to and EPA has offered them a period of one year to report any problems with the work that require correction.

EPA has consolidated close to 4,000 cubic yards of excavated soil into a covered temporary storage pile at the north end of town on land leased from a private property owner. Part of the work next field season will be to relocate the excavated soil to a suitable long term repository.

EPA has reported that they have spent approximately \$1.85 million to date on the project. This total includes the sampling in October of 2012 and April 2013 as well as hiring a full time archaeologist to oversee the cleanup work as required by the National Historic Preservation Act and the NV State Historic Preservation Office.

During the work this fall, property owners for 29 additional properties came forward and requested their properties to be sampled, bringing the total number of properties in town sampled to 150. Based on these results and with the properties that EPA was not able to cleanup this fall,

EPA anticipates cleaning up 16 additional properties in the spring of 2014.

### **Blood lead testing**

NDEP has entered into a contract with Nevada Rural Health Centers to provide free blood lead level testing at the Eureka Medical Clinic beginning in early December. The onsite testing from a finger stick test will provide results within minutes. NDEP has provided fliers to the Eureka School District for distribution to students and their families. With available funding from EPA, NDEP currently has provided enough funding for testing of 50 individuals. Depending on response, NDEP will seek additional funding to continue testing if needed. The test will provide initial results and individuals and their families will be provided with information on the results and recommendations for reducing lead exposure. It is important to continue to offer blood lead testing as some residents may not have taken the opportunity to participate previously and levels of lead in blood can fluctuate based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, changes in the seasons and nutritional behaviors.

### **Coordination with Eureka County**

NDEP and EPA reported the progress of the cleanup at the October 7 Eureka County Commissioners meeting and as requested will provide another update at a Commission meeting in December. We are also scheduling a follow up meeting with Eureka County representatives in December. At that meeting we will discuss the need and options for longer term plans for managing slag piles and other properties not addressed by the current residential soil cleanup.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Colleen

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